To Whom It May Concern:

Immigration is at the core of who we are as a nation. We should welcome any and all people who want to come to the United States to make a better life for themselves and their families. It is without question what has helped us thrive as a nation and it is my true hope that we as a nation expand the paths available to people to legally immigrate to the United States. That will best serve our nation and humanity by ensuring future generations of immigrants continue to see the United States as the "beacon on the hill" I know we can be.

To achieve this goal, we need the support of the American people. That support is eroded when we extend benefits beyond citizens and legal residents. However well-intentioned these attempts may be, they are short-sighted toward the long-term goal of easing immigration status for future generations. Who is and isn't a legal resident is by necessity within the purview of the federal government. For the State of Connecticut to confer benefits to undocumented persons is to effectively override the federal government and is as wrong as it would be for other states to disallow benefits to legal residents.

Therefore, because of and not in spite of my support for broader immigration reform I request you not pass HB06616 to extend HUSKY benefits to undocumented persons.

Sincerely

George P. Norman